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May 9, 2000

US-PAT-NO: 6060298DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6060298 A

TITLE: Peniophora phytase

DATE-ISSUED: May 9, 2000

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US-CL-CURRENT: 435/196; 424/94.1, 424/94.6, 435/254.1, 435/320.1, 435/72

CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. An isolated polypeptide exhibiting phytase activity, wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide encoded by a phytase-encoding part of

(i) SEQ ID NO: 1, or

(ii) the DNA sequence cloned into plasmid PYES 2.0 present in Eschericia coli DSM 11312, and

(b) a polypeptide which is at least 90% homologous to the polypeptide of (a) and which exhibits phytase activity, when homology is determined by GAP (version 8) using a GAP creation penalty of 5.0 and a GAP extension penalty of 0.3.

2. An isolated polypeptide exhibiting phytase activity and comprising the amino acid sequence of ammo acid no. 31 to 439 of SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% homologous to this sequence, when homology is determined by GAP (version 8), using a GAP creation penalty of 5.0 and a GAP extension penalty of 0.3.

3. An isolated polypeptide exhibiting phytase activity and comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% homologous to this sequence, when homology is determined by GAP (version 8). using a GAP creation penalty of 5.0 and a GAP extension penalty of 0.3.
4. A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 3.
5. The composition according to claim 4 which is suitable for use in food or feed preparations.
6. The composition according to claim 4 which is an animal feed additive.
7. A feed or food comprising at least one isolated polypeptide of claim 3.
8. A process for preparing a feed or food according to claim 7, wherein said at least one isolated polypeptide is added to the food or feed components.
9. A process for reducing phytate levels in animal manure comprising feeding an animal with an effective amount of the feed according to claim 7.
10. A process for improving the food or feed utilization comprising the step of adding the polypeptide of claim 3 to feed or food components.
11. A process for liberating inorganic phosphate from phytate which process comprises the step of adding the polypeptide of claim 3 to a phytate containing material.

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